pollution under the Ten Point Programme is going on as per time-schedule;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether any supplementary system was introduced as per prior declaration of the Government for laying supplementary natural gas pipeline and developing its distribution system in Agra-Firozabad region;

(d) if so, the reasons therefor;

(e) if not, the reasons therefor;

(f) whether any quotations have been invited from the private sector by the Government in this regard;

(g) if so, the terms and conditions thereof; and

(h) the time by which the construction work likely to commence?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI T.R. BAALU): (a) and (b). Yes, Sir. As per the Ten Point Action Plan formulated by the Government, the LPG waiting list has been virtually eliminated; a number of retail outlets have started supplying unleaded petrol in Taj Trapezium area, 0.25% sulphur content diesel is being supplied w.e.f. 1.9.1996, plans for supply of natural gas to industries and Mathura Refinery are going on as per schedule, LPG is offered to industries on preferential basis, environmental audit of Mathura Refinery has been carried out by Internationally reputed agency, retail outlets have been identified for supply of CNG, Government have approved a project for hydrocracker technology for Mathura Refinery and ADB assistance is being examined for environmental management.

(c) to (e). Does not arise. Pipeline is being put up to supply natural gas to Mathura refinery and industries in Agra-Firozabad region.

(f) and (g). GAIL has invited offer from parties for setting up of Joint Venture Company (JVC) with it for distribution of natural gas in Agra and Firozabad. As per the terms and conditions, the main requirements were that the party :

(i) Should be a registered company with 5 years standing.

(ii) Should have commissioned project worth Rs. 50 crore or more.

(iii) Should have raised equity of minimum Rs. 5 crore.

(iv) Should have served minimum 100 industrial consumers.

(h) Pending formation of a Joint Venture Company, GAIL has started the construction work on the pipeline from 1.11.1996.

[English]

Meeting of Bureaucrats

3963. SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV :
DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY :
SHRI SANAT KUMAR MANDAL :
SHRI MUKHTAR ANIS :

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether the conference of Chief Secretaries of States have recommended the enactment of a statutory Charter of Ethnic and Civil Services Code to regulate the interaction between the politicians and the bureaucracy and the establishment of Civil Service Board to process posting, transfer and other service-related matters;

(b) if so, whether the conference has also suggested the introduction of a citizen's charter to ensure accountability of the bureaucracy; and

(c) if so, the reaction of the Government to those recommendations and suggestion?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI S.R. BALASUBRAMONIYAN) : (a) to (c). It is the endeavour of the Government of India to provide a clean, responsive, open, decentralised and accountable Government at various levels. As a part of efforts towards achieving this, the Government initiated a National Debate on Effective and Responsive Administration The Conference of Chief Secretaries held on 20th November, 1996 was the first step in this regard.

The Conference of Chief Secretaries recommended interalia that :

(i) The Government of India and State Governments should draw up a Charter of Ethics and Civil Service Code for the civil service which is based on the fundamental principles of the Indian constitution such as secularism, equality, impartiality, social justice, attention to the needs of the weaker sections, rule of law, etc.

(ii) The State Governments will be requested to devise suitable mechanisms including a high powered Civil Service Board, and amend relevant rules, for transparent decisions on postings, promotions and transfers of officials at all levels.

(iii) Accountability should be interpreted in a larger sense in relation to public satisfaction and responsive delivery of services. For this purpose, a phased introduction of Citizens' Charter for as many service institutions as possible could be considered.

The recommendations of the Conference have been given wide publicity and are being followed up within the Central Government and with the State Governments for urgent processing. It is proposed to convene a Conference of Chief Ministers, after consolidating the views of different citizen groups as well as state governments.

Supply of Gas

3964. SHRI BHERU LAL MEENA
SHRI TARA CHAND BHAGORA :

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) the price at which gas is supplied for Ramgarh Gas Power Plant in Jaisalmer District of Rajasthan;

(b) whether the Rajasthan Government have requested the Union-Government to review the price of the gas;

(c) if so, whether the Government propose a lower gas price to boost gas utilisation from small gas fields in Rajasthan and thereby the infrastructural development in barren desert;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) whether the gas being supplied to Ramgarh Gas Based Thermal Power Plant contains high concentration of Nitrogen, which does not contribute to heat energy for power generation;

(f) if so, the details thereof; and

(g) whether the Government has any plan to notify the concessional rate for the gas price in consideration to the desert terrain and small finds of gas?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI T.R. BAALU): (a) to (d) and (g). The price of gas exclusing transportation charges, royalty and taxes is Rs. 1850 per thousand cubic meters all over India except the North-East. Having considered the request of the Government of Rajasthan in this behalf, the Government have allowed a discount of 15% in the price of gas supplied to RSEB, Ramgarh. The power plant is also entitled to a reduction in the price on account of the low calorific value of the gas.

(e) and (f). Yes, Sir. The nitrogen content in the gas is around 40%.

National Scheme for Fishermen

3965. SHRI GOPAL TANDEL : Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to state :

(a) when was the National Scheme for Fishermen was introduced;

(b) whether the aforesaid scheme has been implemented in the Union Territories of Daman and Diu;

(c) if so, the scheme-wise break-up for the last three years alongwith number of beneficiaries and amount spent thereon;

(d) whether any steps have been contemplated to provide wireless set to each of the registered craft for instant communication during cyclones etc.; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SHRI DILIP KUMAR RAY) : (a) Centrally Sponsored National Welfare of Fishermen Scheme was launched in 1991-92 by amalgamating the two earlier schemes - Janta Personal Accident Policy (started in 1982-83) and National Welfare Fund for Fishermen (started in 1986-87) and simultaneously adding a new component called Saving-cum-Relief

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

(d) No, Sir.

(e) Does not arise.

[English]

Select List of Grade I

3966. SHRI MOHAN RAWALE : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to refer to the reply to Unstarred Question No. 5297 on August 11, 1996 regarding Stagnation of Section Officers and state :

(a) whether the litigation precluding the Government from bringing out Select List for Grade I and Selection Grade Select List of Central Secretariat Service has come to an end;

(b) if so, whether the Government have drawn up any action plan to issue Grade I and Selection Grade Select List so as to effect promotion;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI S.R. BALASUBRAMONIYAN) : (a) to (c). Consequent upon finalisation of the Common Seniority List of Section Officers on 15-5-1996 in compliance with the order dated 22-3-1995 of the Central Administrative Tribunal, the exercise for review of the panels of Grade I of the Central Secretariat Service for the years 1984 to 1986 and preparation of panel for 1987, in the first instance, has been undertaken. A reference in that regard has been made to the UPSC. The Selection Grade Select Lists can be prepared after the completion of the said exercise.

(d) Does not arise.